

**Title 17
FIRE CODE**

Chapters:

17.02 General Provisions

17.04 Fire Code

17.08 Fire Hydrants and Water Mains

**Chapter 17.02
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Sections:

17.02.010 Relationship to comprehensive plan and growth management act.

17.02.010 Relationship to comprehensive plan and growth management act. This title is hereby enacted to be consisted with an implement the comprehensive plan in accordance with R.C.W. 36.70A. (Ord. 11625 § 1, 1994).

**Chapter 17.04
FIRE CODE****Sections:**

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- 17.04.01032 Hazardous materials management plan.
- 17.04.01033 UFC Appendix I-A repealed.
- 17.04.01034 UFC Appendix I-B repealed.
- 17.04.01035 UFC Appendix III-A substituted with K.C.C. 17.08.
- 17.04.01036 UFC Appendix III-B substituted with K.C.C. 17.08.
- 17.04.01037 UFC Appendix III-D repealed.
- 17.04.01038 UFC Appendix IV-B repealed.
- 17.04.020 Term amendments.
- 17.04.030 Section UFC 1003.2.8.
- 17.04.040 UFC Table 7902.3-A.
- 17.04.070 Fire lanes - Establishment - Vehicle obstruction and impoundment.
- 17.04.080 Enforcement.
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17.04.010 Adoption. The Uniform Fire Code Volumes I and II with Appendices, 1994 Edition, as published by the International Fire Code Institute, as amended in WAC 51-34 and 51-35 on November 18, 1994, together with amendments, additions, and deletions hereinafter adopted by reference, together with King County modifications are adopted as the Fire Code of King County, and hereinafter referred to as "this code." Administrative rules may be adopted in accordance with K.C.C. 2.98 to further clarify and implement these code requirements. The King County modifications shall be codified in this chapter.* (Ord. 12560 § 143, 1996: Ord. 12196 § 7, 1996: Ord. 11700 § 12, 1995: Ord. 11017 § 8, 1993: Ord. 11016 § 24, 1993: Ord. 10608 § 2, 1992: Ord. 8184 § 4, 1987: Ord. 6328 § 3, 1983: Ord. 5484 § 1, 1981: Ord. 3660 § 1, 1978: Ord. 2097 § 1, 1974).

17.04.01001 Administration - Supplemental rules and regulations. Section 101.4 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 101.4 Supplemental rules and regulations. The Fire Marshal, with the approval of the building official, is authorized to make and enforce such rules and regulations, pursuant to the provisions of King County Code 2.98, for the prevention and control of fires and fire hazards as necessary to carry out the intent of this code, including but not limited to:

A. Procedures to assure that building permits for structures shall conform to the requirements of this code.

B. Procedures to assure that applicable standards of this code shall be reviewed as part of the subdivision, short subdivision, urban planned development, rezone, conditional use, special use, site development permit, binding site plan and building permit processes.

C. Procedures to assure that Uniform Building Code Standard 9-3 known as NFPA 13R shall be applied as a minimum standard to all R1 occupancies.

D. Procedures to allow for relaxation of the hydrant spacing requirements by as much as 50% pursuant to K.C.C. 17.08, except when such allowances would unreasonably reduce fire protection to the area or structures served.

A minimum of one certified copy or the number required by governing law of such rules and regulations shall be filed with the clerk of the council and shall be in effect immediately thereafter and additional copies shall be kept in the King County Fire Marshal's Office for distribution to the public.

(Ord. 12560 § 148, 1996).

17.04.01002 Administration - Notice to fire districts. There is added to Section 101 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 101.10 Notice to fire districts. A. Prior to submitting an application for a commercial building permit, site development permit, binding site plan, a preliminary subdivision or short subdivision approval, final subdivision or short subdivision, urban planned development, zoning reclassification, conditional use and special use permits to the King County department of development and environmental services:

1. the applicant shall submit a copy of his application to the King County Fire Protection District providing fire protection services to the proposed development;

*Modifications to the adopted provisions of the Uniform Fire Code (UFC) are codified within K.C.C. 17.04.01001 through K.C.C. 17.04.01038.

2. subdivisions and short subdivisions applied for and/or recorded before February 1, 1989 shall be submitted once to the applicable fire district for review at the time of the first building permit by the applicant for that building permit;

3. it shall be the responsibility of the fire district to issue a receipt to the applicant the same day it receives a copy of a permit application. The receipt shall constitute proof to the director of the notification;

4. the applicant shall include the fire district receipt with the permit application to the department;

5. it shall be the responsibility of the fire district to notify the fire marshal of any comments within seven days of the receipt of an applied for permit.

(Ord. 12560 § 149, 1996).

17.04.01003 Inspection and enforcement - Appeals. Section 103.1.4 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 103.1.4 Appeals. To determine and decide the suitability of alternate materials and methods of construction there shall be and hereby is created a fire code board of appeals who are qualified by experience and training to pass judgment upon pertinent matters. The Fire Marshal shall be an ex officio member and he/she or a designated appointee shall act as secretary of the board. The fire code appeals board shall be appointed by the Executive, confirmed by the Council, and shall serve for not more than two four-year terms or until their successor is appointed and qualified. The board shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations for conducting its investigations and shall render decisions and findings in writing to the fire chief, with a duplicate copy to the appellant, which shall be advisory unless otherwise specified in this Code. The board may also recommend to the Council new legislation regarding the subject matter of this Code.

(Ord. 12560 § 150, 1996).

17.04.01004 Inspection and enforcement - Deviations. There is added to Section 103.1 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 103.1.6 Deviations. The Fire Marshal or his/her designee shall have the authority to consider deviations from the standards established for life safety/rescue access, fire detection systems and fire sprinkler systems.

1. If the Fire Marshal finds that the deviation would not unreasonably reduce fire protection to the area or structures served, and determines that the deviation should be approved, the Fire Marshal shall notify the fire chief of the applicable fire district of the deviation request. The Fire Marshal may approve the deviation if the fire chief of the applicable fire district either concurs in writing with the Fire Marshal or does not respond in writing within seven working days after notification of the deviation request. The fire district chief's lack of response shall be taken as an indication that the fire chief concurs with the Fire Marshal's finding.

2. If a response is received within seven days which is not in accordance with the opinion of the director of the department of development and environmental services or his/her designee, the issue shall be submitted to the King County fire code appeals board.

(Ord. 12560 § 151, 1996).

17.04.01005 Inspection and enforcement - General. Section 103.2.1.1 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 103.2.1.1 General. The King County Fire Marshal is authorized to administer this code. The building official is authorized to enforce this code and all ordinances of the jurisdiction pertaining to but not limited to:

1. The prevention of fires,
2. The storage, use and handling of hazardous materials,
3. The installation and maintenance of automatic, manual and other private fire alarm systems and fire-extinguishing equipment,
4. The maintenance and regulation of fire escapes,
5. The maintenance of fire protection and the elimination of fire hazards on land and in buildings, structures and other property, including those under construction,
6. The maintenance of exits, and
7. The investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fire and unauthorized releases of hazardous materials.

For authority related to control and investigation of emergency scenes, see Section 104.
(Ord. 12560 § 152, 1996).

17.04.01006 Inspection and enforcement - Additional conditions. There is added to Section 103.2.1 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 103.2.1.3 Additional conditions. The Fire Marshal or his/her designee retains the authority under section 1001.9 of the Uniform Fire Code to impose additional conditions, including but not limited to increased setbacks, use of fire retardant materials or standpipes where determined necessary to mitigate identified fire protection impacts.
(Ord. 12560 § 153, 1996).

17.04.01007 Inspection and enforcement - Duties of the fire marshal's office and fire districts. Section 103.2.1.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 103.2.1.2 Duties of the fire marshal's office and fire districts.

1. The Fire Marshal's Office within the King County department of development and environmental services shall be operated under the direction of the Fire Marshal, and shall have responsibility for investigation, administration and inspection functions to promote compliance of the fire prevention provisions of this Code.

2. The Chiefs of the King County Fire Districts and/or Fire Departments shall have responsibility for fire suppression or extinguishing provisions of this Code within their respective jurisdictions.

3. The Fire Marshal's Office may, by written contract, delegate to the chiefs of the fire districts and/or fire departments authority for inspections of the fire prevention provisions of this Code within their respective jurisdictions.

4. The Fire Marshal's Office may, at the request of fire districts and/or fire departments, assume an advisory status in matters of operations, function, expenditure, tactics, personnel and equipment or any other function performed by the fire districts or fire departments.

(Ord. 12560 § 154, 1996).

17.04.01008 Inspection and enforcement - Right of entry. Section 103.3.1.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 103.3.1.2 Right of entry. The right of entry shall be in accordance with the procedures specified in Title 23 of the King County Code.
(Ord. 12560 § 155, 1996).

17.04.01009 Inspection and enforcement - Penalties. There is added to Section 103.3.2 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 103.3.2.3 Penalties. When installation of a fire protection system, which requires approval of the Fire Marshal, is started or proceeded with prior to obtaining said approval, the ordinary fees specified in K.C.C. Title 27 shall be doubled. The payment of such double fee shall not relieve any persons from fully complying with the requirement of this code in the execution of the work nor from any other penalties prescribed herein.
(Ord. 12560 § 156, 1996).

17.04.01010 Inspection and enforcement - Service of notice and orders. Section 103.4.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 103.4.2 Service of notice and orders. Orders and notices authorized or required by this code shall be given or served pursuant to the provisions of Title 23 of the King County Code.
(Ord. 12560 § 157, 1996).

17.04.01011 Definitions - Applicant. There is added to Section 202 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 202 Applicant is a property owner or a public agency or public or private utility which owns a right-of-way or associated easement or has been adjudicated the right to such an easement pursuant to RCW 8.12.090, or any person or entity designated or named in writing by the property or easement owner to be the applicant, in an application for a permit.
(Ord. 12560 § 158, 1996).

17.04.01012 Definitions - Fire detection system. There is added to Section 207 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 207 FIRE DETECTION SYSTEM shall mean a heat and/or smoke detection system monitored by a central and/or remote station conforming to the 1994 edition of the Uniform Fire Code Standard 10-2 and 10-3 and/or the Fire Marshal or his/her designee.
(Ord. 12560 § 159, 1996).

17.04.01013 Definitions - Fire marshal. There is added to Section 207 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 207 FIRE MARSHAL shall mean the Fire Marshal of the building services division of the King County department of development and environmental services.
(Ord. 12560 § 160, 1996).

17.04.01014 Definitions - Fire sprinkler system. There is added to Section 207 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 207 FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM shall mean an integrated system of piping connected to a water supply with sprinklers which will automatically initiate water discharge over a fire, conforming with the 1994 edition of the Uniform Building Code Standard 9-1, 9-3, 9-4 and/or the Fire Marshal or his/her designee.
(Ord. 12560 § 161, 1996).

17.04.01015 Definitions - Life safety/rescue access. There is added to Section 213 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 213 LIFE SAFETY/RESCUE ACCESS shall mean an unobstructed access to all floor levels and each roof level of a building on not less than twenty percent of the building perimeter by utilizing a thirty-five foot ladder. An alternate method would be at least one stairway enclosure with exit doorways from each floor level and with a door opening onto each roof level which conforms to the requirements of the Uniform Building Code.
(Ord. 12560 § 162, 1996).

17.04.01016 Definitions - Group LC occupancies. The definition for Group LC Occupancies added to Section 216 of the Uniform Fire Code per WAC 51-34-0200 is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 216 Group LC occupancies. Group LC Occupancies shall include buildings, structures, or portions thereof, used for the business of providing licensed care to clients in one of the following categories regulated by either the Washington Department of Health or the Department of Social and Health Services:

1. Adult family home not more than six clients.
2. Adult residential rehabilitation facility with not more than thirty-two clients.
3. Alcoholism intensive inpatient treatment service with not more than thirty-two clients.
4. Alcoholism detoxification service with not more than thirty-two clients.
5. Alcoholism long term treatment service with not more than thirty-two clients.
6. Alcoholism recovery house service with not more than thirty-two clients.
7. Boarding home with not more than thirty-two clients.
8. Group care facility with not more than thirty-two clients.
9. Group care facility for severely and multiple handicapped children with not more than sixteen clients.
10. Residential treatment facility for psychiatrically impaired children and youth with not more than sixteen clients.

EXCEPTION: Where the care provided at an alcoholism detoxification service is acute care similar to that provided in a hospital, the facility shall be classified as a Group I, Division 1.1 hospital.

(Ord. 12560 § 163, 1996).

17.04.01017 Fire department access standards. Section 902 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby adopted as King County fire department access standards. (Ord. 12560 § 164, 1996).

17.04.01018 Fire department access - Surface. Section 902.2.2.2 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 902.2.2.2 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be provided with a surface so as to provide all-weather driving capabilities which comply with King County Ordinance 11187, King County Road Standards -1993.
(Ord. 12560 § 165, 1996).

17.04.01019 Fire department access - Turning radius. Section 902.2.2.3 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 902.2.2.3 Turning radius. The turning radius of a fire apparatus access road shall be 40 feet (12.192 m) outside and 20 feet (6.096 m) inside.
(Ord. 12560 § 166, 1996).

17.04.01020 Fire department access - Dead ends. Section 902.2.2.4 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 902.2.2.4 Dead ends. Dead-end fire apparatus access roads in excess of 150 feet (45.72 m) in length shall be provided with either an 80 foot (24.38 m) cul-de-sac or other turnaround facilities, not limited to "hammerhead-like" turnarounds that provide for the unobstructed turning around of 40 foot vehicles. This provision will be re-evaluated subsequent to the 1997 session of the Washington State Legislature.
(Ord. 12560 § 167, 1996).

17.04.01021 Fire department access - Grade. Section 902.2.2.6 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 902.2.2.6 Grade. The gradient for a fire apparatus access road shall not exceed a maximum of 15 percent.
(Ord. 12560 § 168, 1996).

17.04.01022 Fire department access - Marking. Section 902.2.3 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 902.2.3 Marking. Fire Department access roadway shall be marked in accordance with K.C.C. 17.04.070.
(Ord. 12560 § 169, 1996).

17.04.01023 Fire department access - Life safety/rescue access. There is added to Article 9 - Fire Department Access and Water Supply, of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC SECTION 904 - Life safety/rescue access.

1. All occupancies shall be required to provide approved life/safety rescue access except for the following:
 - a. Group U occupancies.

b. Roof access need not be provided to roof levels having slope greater than 4 in 12.

2. The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all buildings whose county assessed value has increased by more than 50% within a five year period due to the added value of additions, alterations and repairs. When the first permit application is submitted to add to, alter or repair an existing building, the county assessed value of the building at the time the complete application is submitted shall be considered the base county assessed value for the following five year period.

3. Any additions to an existing structure shall be considered new construction and subject to the provisions of this section.

(Ord. 12560 § 170, 1996).

17.04.01024 Fire-extinguishing systems - General. Section 1003.2.1 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 1003.2.1 General. 1. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in the occupancies and locations as set forth in Section 1003.2.

For provisions on special hazards and hazardous materials, see Section 1001.9 and Article 79, 80 and 81.

2. An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be installed in all occupancies requiring 2,000 gallons per minute or more fire flow, or where the total floor area included within the surrounding exterior walls on all floor levels including basements exceeds 10,000 square feet. Area separation walls, as noted in Section 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code, shall not be considered to separate a building to enable deletion of the required fire sprinkler system.

EXCEPTIONS: Group U occupancies are excepted from the requirements of this section.

3. The provisions of this section shall apply to all buildings whose county assessed value has increased by more than 50% within a five year period due to the added value of additions, alterations and repairs. When the first permit application is submitted to add to, alter or repair an existing building, the county assessed value of the building at the time the complete application is submitted shall be considered the base county assessed value for the following five year period.

4. Any additions to an existing structure shall be considered new construction and subject to the provisions of this section.

5. All condominiums shall have the following wording in the recorded Declaration of Covenants and a copy of the document shall be provided to the building official or his/her designee:

a. In the event that any unit should be equipped with a sprinkler system, nothing shall be hung from the sprinklers comprising a part of the system nor shall any such sprinklers be painted, covered, or otherwise changed, tampered with or altered.

b. Prior to any alteration, amendment, modification or change thereof, the owners or their agents will submit such alteration, amendment, modification or change to the King County Fire Marshal or his/her designee for approval and agrees to comply with all applicable sprinkler requirements.

(Ord. 12560 § 171, 1996).

17.04.01025 Fire-extinguishing systems - Nightclubs and discos. There is added to Section 1003.2.3 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 1003.2.3.8 Nightclubs and discos. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in Group A occupancies that are used as nightclubs and discos where no alcohol is served and where the total gross floor area exceeds 5,000 square feet. Area separation walls as noted in Section 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code shall not be considered to separate a building to enable deletion of the required fire sprinkler system.
(Ord. 12560 § 172, 1996).

17.04.01026 Fire-extinguishing systems - Group R, Division 1 occupancies. Section 1003.2.8 of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed, and the following is substituted:

UFC 1003.2.8 Group R, Division 1 occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout every Group R, Division 1 occupancies having three or more floor levels or containing five or more dwelling units, every congregate residence three or more stories in height or having an occupant load of 20 or more, and every hotel three or more floor levels or containing ten or more guest rooms. Residential or quick-response standard sprinklers shall be used in accordance with their approved listing the dwelling units and guest room portions of the buildings. Area separation walls as noted in Section 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code shall not be considered to separate a building to enable deletion of the required fire sprinkler system.
(Ord. 12560 § 173, 1996).

17.04.01027 Fire-extinguishing systems - Group R, Division 3 occupancies. There is added to Section 1003.2 of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC 1003.2.9 Group R, Division 3 occupancies. An automatic sprinkler system shall be installed in Group R, Division 3 occupancies:

1. Exceeding 2,500 square feet gross floor area (including attached garages) without adequate fire flow except as cited in K.C.C. 17.08.030.
2. Without approved fire department access as defined in the road standards of King County Ordinance 11187. (Article 9, section 902)

(Ord. 12560 § 174, 1996).

17.04.01028 Fire-protection systems and equipment - Fire detection systems. There is added to Article 10 - Fire-Protection Systems and Equipment, of the Uniform Fire Code a new section to read as follows:

UFC SECTION 1008 - Fire detection systems.

1. All occupancies exceeding 3,000 square feet gross floor area shall be required to provide an approved automatic fire detection system. Area separation walls as noted in Section 504.6 of the Uniform Building Code shall not be considered to separate a building to enable deletion of the required fire detection system except in the following:
 - a. Group U or R, Division 3, occupancies.
 - b. Occupancies protected throughout by an approved/monitored automatic sprinkler system can delete heat detectors from the system.
2. The provisions of this section shall apply to all buildings whose county assessed value has increased by more than 50% within a five year period due to the added value of additions, alterations and repairs. When the first permit application is submitted to add to, alter or repair an existing

building, the county assessed value of the building at the time the complete application is submitted shall be considered the base county assessed value for the following five year period.

3. Any additions to an existing structure shall be considered new construction and subject to the provisions of this section.

(Ord. 12560 § 175, 1996).

17.04.01029 Special equipment - Permit required for combustible liquids tank. There is hereby added to this chapter a new section which amends Uniform Fire Code Section 6103, as amended by WAC 51-34-6103, to read as follows:

UFC 6103. Permits. See Section 105.8 for permits. A permit is required to remove, abandon, place temporarily out of service or otherwise dispose of a combustible liquids tank. Such a permit may be issued without an inspection of the tank or premises as otherwise required in Section 105.4. (Ord. 12641 § 4, 1996).

17.04.01030 Flammable and combustible liquids - Storage of leaking tanks. Section 7902.6.8 of the Uniform Fire Code (WAC 51-34-7902) is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 176, 1996).

17.04.01031 Flammable and combustible liquids - Marine craft and special equipment. Section 7904.5.4.2.2.1 of the Uniform Fire Code (WAC 51-34-7904) is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 177, 1996).

17.04.01032 Hazardous materials management plan. Section 8001.3.2 of the Uniform Fire Code (WAC 51-34-8001) is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 178, 1996).

17.04.01033 UFC Appendix I-A repealed. Appendix I-A, Life Safety Requirements for Existing Buildings Other than High Rise, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 179, 1996).

17.04.01034 UFC Appendix I-B repealed. Appendix I-B, Life Safety Requirements for Existing High Rise, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 180, 1996).

17.04.01035 UFC Appendix III-A substituted with K.C.C. 17.08. Appendix III-A, Fire-flow Requirements for Buildings, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed and substituted with K.C.C. 17.08. (Ord. 12560 § 181, 1996).

17.04.01036 UFC Appendix III-B substituted with K.C.C. 17.08. Appendix III-B, Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed and substituted with K.C.C. 17.08. (Ord. 12560 § 182, 1996).

17.04.01037 UFC Appendix III-D repealed. Appendix III-D, Basement Pipe Inlets, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 183, 1996).

17.04.01038 UFC Appendix IV-B repealed. Appendix IV-B, Christmas Trees, of the Uniform Fire Code is hereby repealed. (Ord. 12560 § 184, 1996).

17.04.020 Term amendments. Whenever the following words appear in this code, they are to be changed as follows:

A. Fire chief, chief of the fire department, fire prevention engineer, to King County fire marshal.

B. Fire department to King County fire marshal's office. (Ord. 12560 § 144, 1996: Ord. 2097 § 2, 1974).

17.04.030 Section UFC 1003.2.8. A new subsection is added to Section 1003.2.8 of the Uniform Fire Code as follows:

All senior citizen apartments defined as, a room or a suite of two or more rooms in a duplex or multi-family structure for which occupancy of the structure has been limited to persons age sixty-two or older by covenant or deed restriction in which King County is granted enforcement authority, which are four stories or more in height shall be protected throughout by an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(Ord. 12560 § 145, 1996: Ord. 6328 § 4, 1983).

17.04.040 UFC Table 7902.3-A. A new footnote is added to Table 7902.3-A of the Uniform Fire Code as follows:

Outdoor storage of flammable liquids in excess of ten gallons is not permitted on property used for R-1 and R-3 occupancies.

(Ord. 12560 § 146, 1996: Ord. 8726 § 1, 1988).

17.04.070 Fire lanes - Establishment - Vehicle obstruction and impoundment. A. Establishment of Fire Lanes. Fire lanes in conformance with this code shall be established by the King County fire marshal or his authorized designee, and shall be referred to as designated fire lanes in this section.

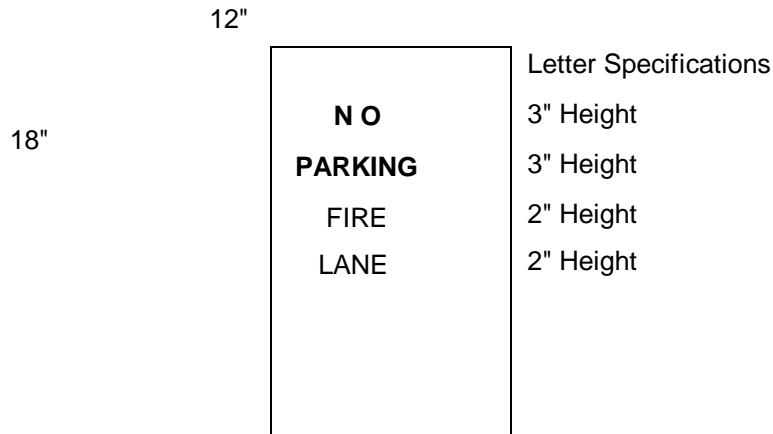
B. Definition of Fire Lanes. The area within any public right-of-way, easement, or on private property designated for the purpose of permitting fire trucks and other fire fighting or emergency equipment to use, travel upon, and park.

C. Marking of Fire Lanes. All designated fire lanes shall be clearly marked in the following manner:

1. Vertical curbs (6 inch) shall be painted yellow on the top and side, extending the length of the designated fire lane. The pavement adjacent to the painted curbs shall be marked with minimum 18 inch in height block lettering with a minimum 3 inch brush stroke reading: "NO PARKING - FIRE LANE." Lettering shall be yellow and spaced at 50 foot or portion thereof intervals, or

2. Rolled curbs or surface without curbs shall have a yellow 6 inch wide stripe painted extending the length of the designated fire lane. The surface adjacent to the stripe shall be marked with minimum 18 inch in height block lettering with a minimum 3 inch brush stroke reading: "NO PARKING - FIRE LANE." Lettering shall be in yellow and spaced at 50 ft. or portion thereof intervals, or

3. Fire lane signs shall be installed per the illustration:



- a. Reflective in nature.
- b. Red letters on white background.
- c. Signs to be spaced 50 feet or portion thereof apart and posted on or immediately next to the curb.

d. Top of signs to be not less than 4 feet nor more than 6 feet from the ground.

e. Signs may be placed on a building when approved by the fire marshal as the designee of the manager of the department of development and environmental services.

When posts are required they shall be a minimum of 2 inch galvanized steel or 4 inch x 4 inch pressure treated wood. Signs to be placed so they face the direction of the vehicular travel.

D. Obstruction of Fire Lanes Prohibited. The obstruction of a designated fire lane by a parked vehicle or any other object is prohibited, shall constitute a traffic hazard as defined in state law and an immediate hazard to life and property.

E. Alternate Materials and Methods. The fire marshal as designee of the manager of the department of development and environmental services may modify any of the provisions herein where practical difficulties exist. The particulars of a modification shall be granted by the fire marshal and shall be entered into the records of the office.

F. Existing fire lane signs and markings.

1. Signs (minimum 9 inch by 16 inch) may be allowed to remain until there is a need for replacement and at that time a 12 inch x 18 inch sign shall be installed.

2. Markings may be allowed to remain until there is a need for repainting and at that time the provisions outlined in Section C, 1, 2 or 3 shall be complied with.

G. Maintenance. Fire lane markings shall be maintained at the expense of the property owner(s) as often as needed to clearly identify the designated area as being a fire lane.

H. Towing notification. At each entrance to property where fire lanes have been designated, signs shall be posted in a clearly conspicuous location and shall clearly state that vehicles parked in fire lanes may be impounded, and the name, telephone number, and address of the towing firm where the vehicle may be redeemed.

I. Property owner responsible. The owner, manager, or person in charge of any property upon which designated fire lanes have been established shall prevent the parking of vehicles or placement of other obstructions in such fire lanes.

J. Violation - Civil infraction. Any person who fails to mark or maintain the marking of a designated fire lane as prescribed in this chapter, or who parks a vehicle in, allows the parking of a vehicle in, obstructs, or allows the

obstruction of a designated fire lane commits a civil infraction to which the provisions of RCW 7.80 shall apply. The penalty for failing to mark or maintain the marking of a designated fire lane shall be one hundred and fifty dollars. The penalty for parking a vehicle in, allowing the parking of a vehicle in, obstructing, or allowing the obstruction of a designated fire lane shall be fifty dollars.

K. Violation - Civil Penalty. In addition to, or as an alternate to, the provisions of subsection E, any person who fails to meet the provisions of the fire lane requirements codified in this title shall be subject to civil penalties in conformance with K.C.C. Chapter 23.

L. Impoundment. Any vehicle or object obstructing a designated fire lane is hereby declared a traffic hazard and may be abated without prior notification to its owner by impoundment pursuant to the applicable state law. (Ord. 11783 § 1, 1995: Ord. 8868, 1989: Ord. 7980 § 1, 1987).

17.04.080 Enforcement. A. The fire marshal or his authorized designee is authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the ordinances codified in it, and any rules and regulations adopted thereunder pursuant to the enforcement and penalty provisions of Title 23.

B. The fire marshal, or his authorized designee, any officer of the department of public safety, and the chief of the fire district, or his authorized designee, is authorized to take such lawful action, including the writing and issuance of citations for civil infractions, as may be required to enforce the provisions of the fire lane ordinance codified in this title. (Ord. 11783 § 2, 1995: Ord. 7980 § 2, 1987: Ord. 2910 § 6, 1976: Ord. 2097 (part), 1974).

17.04.090 Severability. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this chapter, it being herein expressly declared that the ordinance codified in this chapter and each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause and phrase thereof would have been adopted irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses or phrases are declared invalid or unconstitutional. (Ord. 2097 § 15, 1974).

Chapter 17.08
FIRE HYDRANTS AND WATER MAINS

Sections:

- 17.08.010 Definitions.
- 17.08.020 Application.
- 17.08.030 Exemptions.
- 17.08.040 Water main requirements.
- 17.08.050 Fire hydrants-Single family.
- 17.08.060 Fire hydrants-Other uses.
- 17.08.070 Minimum water flow requirements.
- 17.08.080 Fire hydrants.
- 17.08.090 Variances.
- 17.08.100 Water authority responsibility.
- 17.08.110 Enforcement.
- 17.08.120 Severability.
- 17.08.130 Water purveyor authority.
- 17.08.140 Individual service connections.
- 17.08.150 Effective date.
- 17.08.160 Appeals.

17.08.010 Definitions. A. Unless otherwise provided in this section, the definitions in the Uniform Fire Code, as adopted in K.C.C. 17.04.010, and in the rules and regulations of the state board of health regarding public water systems, WAC 248-54-560, shall apply to this chapter.

B. "Fire department" shall mean the fire authority normally responsible for fire suppression in a specified area.

C. "Water flow" shall mean the minimum quantity of water required for domestic use or fire fighting, whichever is higher, at a specified building, development or site, expressed in continuous gallons per minute at 20 pounds per square inch residual pressure for a designated duration of time.

D. "Fire marshal" shall mean the King County fire marshal or his designated representative.

E. "Water main" shall mean piping used to deliver water to any fire hydrants or to one or more individual service connections. (Ord. 5828 § 2, 1982).

17.08.020 Application. A. Subdivisions and short subdivisions are required to be provided with water mains and fire hydrants, consistent with county standards and department of social and health services principles of water system design as a condition of final plat or short plat approval unless exempt pursuant to Section 17.08.030.

B. All structures or additions thereto erected pursuant to a building permit and/or mobile home permit shall be served by operational water mains and fire hydrants consistent with county standards prior to

1. the commencement or installation of combustible construction or
2. prior to construction of a second floor if the building is noncombustible, whichever occurs first, unless exempt pursuant to Section 17.08.030.

C. Mobile home parks and recreational vehicle parks shall be required to provide water mains and fire hydrants consistent with county standards as a condition of final site plan approval.

D. Permits or approvals for uses not involving a structure shall be served by water mains and fire hydrants consistent with county standards.

E. All new water mains and all additions and extensions to existing water mains shall meet the requirements of this chapter, provided that water mains which serve only uses exempt pursuant to Section 17.08.030 are also exempt from the requirements of this chapter.

F. All water purveyor comprehensive plans approved pursuant to K.C.C. Chapter 13.24 shall be consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

G. All water mains and fire hydrants shall be served by a water district or water purveyor in accordance with a current water comprehensive plan approved pursuant to K.C.C. Chapter 13.24, or by other adequate means providing service levels consistent with the provisions of this Chapter. (Ord. 5828 § 3, 1982).

17.08.030 Exemptions. A. The following permits and approvals are exempt from the water flow and fire hydrant requirements of this chapter. These exemptions do not exempt any development from compliance with the requirements of state law.

1. Subdivisions and short subdivisions located outside an urban growth area designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan and which contain no lot less than 35,000 square feet in size.

2. Building permits for single family detached dwellings and mobile home permits for mobile homes not in mobile home parks, located outside an urban growth area designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan, provided the lot is at least 35,000 square feet in size.

3. Building permits for structures classified as Group U, Division 1 occupancies pursuant to the Uniform Building Code which conform to the definition of agricultural buildings in section 202 of the Uniform Building Code, provided such structures are located outside an urban growth area designated by the King County Comprehensive Plan.

4. Building permits for structures which:

- a. do not exceed two thousand five hundred square feet in floor area (excluding garage);
- b. are served by a Group B water system; and
- c. are located outside an urban growth area.

5. Building permits for structures which exceed the two thousand five hundred square feet limit provided for in subsection A.4a, but comply with subsections A.4b. and 4c, shall be exempt from the requirements of this chapter if the fire marshal determines that the project will not create a substantial fire hazard.

B. The fire marshal shall have the authority to impose conditions, including but not limited to increased setbacks, use of fire retardant materials, or drafting ponds on permits exempt pursuant to subsection A. where necessary to mitigate identified fire hazards.

C. Building permits and mobile home permits and subdivisions and short subdivisions exempt pursuant to subsection A shall as a condition of approval,

record a covenant running with the land which acknowledges the absence of fire hydrants and by which owners of the property and their successors are deemed to have agreed to participate in and not oppose or protest annexation to a public water district or the formation of a utility local improvement district for installation of water mains and fire hydrants consistent with applicable county standards; provided, this condition shall not apply to any subdivision or short subdivision, or to any building permits and mobile home permits exempt pursuant to subsection A when the lot is five acres or larger, or the proposed subdivision, short subdivision or structure is located outside an urban growth area designated by the 1994 King County Comprehensive Plan. (Ord. 12321 § 1, 1996: Ord. 11625 § 2, 1994: Ord. 6541, 1983: Ord. 5828 § 4, 1982).

17.08.040 Water main requirements. A. All water mains subject to this Chapter which serve fire hydrants shall be a minimum of eight inches inside diameter for dead end mains and six inches inside diameter for circulating mains. Hydrant leads less than fifty feet in length may be six inches in diameter.

B. All new water mains subject to this Chapter shall have fire hydrants installed to conform to the requirements of this chapter.

C. All water mains subject to this Chapter shall meet applicable engineering and health standards adopted by the State of Washington or the water purveyor, including WAC Chapters 248-54 and 248-57. (Ord. 5828 § 5, 1982).

17.08.050 Fire hydrants - single family. Fire hydrants serving detached single family dwellings or duplex dwellings on individual lots shall be located not more than seven hundred feet on center and shall be located so that no single family lot is more than three hundred fifty feet from a hydrant. Such distances shall be measured on the path of vehicular access, unless a variance is obtained pursuant to Section 17.08.090A. (Ord. 5828 § 6, 1982).

17.08.060 Fire hydrants - other uses. A. Fire hydrants serving any use other than detached single family dwellings or duplex dwellings on individual lots shall be located not more than three hundred feet on center and shall be located so that at least one hydrant is located within one hundred fifty feet of all structures or uses. Such distances shall be measured on the path of vehicular access, unless a variance is obtained pursuant to Section 17.08.090A.

B. The department of planning and community development shall adopt rules and regulations specifying the number and location of fire hydrants for structures and uses which require more than one fire hydrant. (Ord. 5828 § 7, 1982).

17.08.070 Minimum water flow requirements. A. The department of planning and community development shall adopt rules and regulations based upon the Guide for Determination of Required Fire Flow, 1974 Edition, published by the Insurance Service Office, establishing criteria for determination of water flow requirements sufficient to provide reasonable fire protection.

B. In no event, shall the water flow required for any use be less than that required by WAC Chapters 248-54 and 248-57. (Ord. 5828 § 8, 1982).

17.08.080 Fire hydrants. The department of planning and community development shall adopt rules and regulations establishing standards for design and installation of fire hydrants as necessary to meet sound engineering practices and provide reasonable fire protection. (Ord. 5828 § 9, 1982).

17.08.090 Variances. A. The fire marshal shall have the authority to approve deviations from the standards established pursuant to this chapter when it is shown that

1. strict compliance would require unreasonable fire hydrant locations, fire flow requirements or water main sizes and

2. the variance would not unreasonably affect adequate fire protection to the area or structures served.

B. The fire marshal shall approve variances, except as provided in subsection C. for connections to single family residences served by existing water system which have fire hydrants and fire flow of at least 500 gallons per minute if the variance would not unreasonably affect fire protection and provided that the purveyor's approved comprehensive plan includes a method for increasing fire flow to current standards.

C. The fire marshal shall not approve any variance which would result in a violation of WAC Chapters 248-54 and 248-57 without prior approval of the Department of Social and Health Services. (Ord. 7080 § 1, 1985; Ord. 5828 § 10, 1982).

17.08.100 Water authority responsibility. A. Water authorities shall not be required to exercise police or regulatory powers toward the enforcement of this chapter. The only role of water authorities shall be to provide information, such as:

1. The water authority may be requested by the county to indicate in writing its capability to provide water service, consistent with the standards contained in this chapter, to any building permit, subdivision, or short subdivision applicant, or to the county;

2. The water authority may be required by the fire marshal to notify the fire department in writing when a water system installed pursuant to this chapter is available for use.

B. Enforcement responsibility, for determining whether or not to approve a building permit, subdivision, or short subdivision application, based on information provided by the water authority, shall belong solely to King County. (Ord. 3316 § 4, 1977).

17.08.110 Enforcement. The provisions of this chapter and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder shall be enforced by the fire marshal in accordance with the enforcement and penalty provisions of K.C.C. Title 23. (Ord. 5828 § 13, 1982; Ord. 3087 § 10, 1977).

17.08.120 Severability. Should any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this chapter. (Ord. 3087 § 11, 1977).

17.08.130 Water Purveyor Authority. Nothing in this chapter or rules and regulations adopted by the department of planning and community development pursuant to this chapter shall be construed to prohibit water purveyors from imposing more stringent requirements for the construction of water mains and fire hydrants. (Ord. 5828 § 11, 1982).

17.08.140 Individual service connections. No more than 60 feet of piping which connects the customer's plumbing system to the purveyor's water main or water meter shall be located in any public road right-of-way unless approved pursuant to K.C.C. 14.28. (Ord. 5828 § 12, 1982).

17.08.150 Effective date. The effective date of this ordinance shall be ten days after its enactment, provided that existing standards for determination of minimum water flow requirements and for design and installation of fire hydrants shall remain in effect until rules and regulations pursuant to Sections 17.08.060 and 17.08.070 have become effective. (Ord. 5828 § 14, 1982).

17.08.160 Appeals. The King County fire prevention advisory and appeals board shall have the authority to hear appeals and make recommendations to the fire marshal from the requirements of this chapter. The criteria for board recommendations shall be the same as set forth in K.C.C. 17.08.090. (Ord 7080 § 2, 1985).

(King County 12-94)